

What is claimed is:

1. A sole structure for a cleated shoe comprising:
 - 5 an outsole formed of a hard material, said outsole being in the shape of a thin plate; and
 - a plurality of cleats provided on a bottom surface of said outsole;
 - wherein said outsole has a first and second
 - 10 bulge each protruding downwardly toward the ground surface, said first bulge located at a position that corresponds to a thenar eminence of a foot of a shoe wearer, said second bulge located at a position that corresponds to a hypothenar eminence, said first and second bulge each having a sectional
 - 15 shape that conforms to a shape of a forefoot portion of a foot that has been flexed, and some of said cleats provided on a convexly curved surface of said first and second bulges.
2. The sole structure for a cleated shoe
 - 20 according to claim 1, wherein said outsole further includes a third bulge protruding downwardly toward the ground surface, said third bulge located at a position that corresponds to a first distal phalanx of a foot of a shoe wearer, and some of said cleats are provided on a convexly curved surface of
 - 25 said third bulge.

3. The sole structure for a cleated shoe according to claim 2, wherein said outsole further includes a fourth bulge protruding downwardly toward the ground surface, said fourth bulge located at a region that corresponds to each phalangeal joint between each distal phalanx and each middle phalanx of a second to fifth toe of a foot of a shoe wearer, and some of said cleats are provided on a convexly curved surface of said fourth bulge.

10 4. The sole structure for a cleated shoe according to claim 1, wherein said outsole has a flat, W-shaped cross section at said first and second bulges.

15 5. The sole structure for a cleated shoe according to any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein one of said cleats is located at a top centered position of a corresponding bulge.

20 6. The sole structure for a cleated shoe according to any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein said outsole further includes a midsole formed of a soft elastic material, said midsole disposed at least at a forefoot portion of the upper surface of said outsole.

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